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IAS-181/73

6 November 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Comments on Congressional Proposal

1. The proposal in question would have little direct impact on IAS activities. We have had virtually no contacts with former employees; we have no contract, part-time or consultant relationships with them, have had no exchanges with those in academia, and have not arranged through them participation in lectures, seminars, etc.

2. On the other hand, we share the concern that the proposal legislation goes too far in establishing a blanket restriction against Agency contact with former employees. Although some such restriction may be appropriate to preclude questionable operational relationships, it should be possible to define conditions or situations wherein certain kinds of contacts would be permissible. This would almost certainly require establishment of some form of review machinery which would ensure the Agency--and the Congress--that all such relationships are conducted within whatever legislative framework is established. That framework must recognize both the larger national interest--which would justify the relationship in the first instance--and the principle that the Agency not retain operational strings over former employees who may subsequently be employed in activities which could compromise the Agency's fundamental charter.

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